

Richmond and Allegheny Railroad.

It is well to keep up an occasional paragraph relating to our pet enterprise. We have had our vexations; but we have never despaired and do not mean to yet awhile. There is a railroad involved in the many phases of the complications of bondholders' claims, mortgages, etc., etc. And we shall see it emerge as it is liberated from the folds of the entanglement.

First, then, there will be a general meeting of the Richmond and Allegheny Railroad Company in New York on Wednesday next week to receive the report of the committee of the bondholders who have in charge the settlement with the creditors of the canal company, and also to consider the reports of engineers.

Messrs. Mason and Hook have completed the examination of the line of the Richmond and Allegheny railroad to Clifton Forge, and were at that place on Monday. They were invited by the company to put in a bid for at least one of the divisions of the railroad by the 1st of June.

We are informed that Messrs. C. R. Wilson & Co., who are building the extension to the Denver, Atchison and Santa Fe railroad, will be here to examine the line of the Richmond and Allegheny railroad the present week, with a view to put in a bid for the same.

So there is something all the time in motion.

The Silver Question.

The recitation of his opposition to the bi-metallic specie basis by Mr. McCulloch is a settled fact. He made this recitation in a public address at Boston, as we have already stated. He acknowledged a change in his opinion mainly for the reason that the making of gold the single standard would degrade silver to the great injury of society. The power of gold would be so increased that it would cause a universal bankruptcy from the enormous total of State, municipal, and individual indebtedness. The demonetization of silver was a great mistake. The establishment of the bi-metallic basis is indispensable to prevent continual loss and inconvenience to international traffic. Mr. McCulloch, advises that, the relative value of gold and silver should be fixed by a congress of nations.

Mr. McCulloch behaved as a frank and independent gentleman by openly acknowledging and recanting his fault in the community in the United States. He is an able financier—one whose experience entitles him to great weight in financial matters. He had the finest opportunities to arrive at sound conclusions, and he is not one of those who think like partisans and reason like fanatics, rejecting philosophy and fact. He has seen that the demonetization of silver was a great error.

Mr. McCulloch knows what he is talking about, and when he looks upon the power of gold as depressing silver to a ruinous degree and threatening the States, municipalities, and individuals with bankruptcy, we may know that there is reason to think that all is not safe. It would be poor compensation in rejecting his wise forecast to adopt the impracticable madness of the gold mania, and thus plunge our country, so terribly bankrupted already, once more into ruin.

Mr. McCulloch is both wise and just. He has found silver to be the money of the people—that a bi-metallic basis is the true balance-wheel of finance—that there must be two grades in coins: the aristocratic gold and the plebeian silver. The aristocrat can be nothing without being backed or guarded by the plebeian. By establishing this double coinage as the base of the system it will become harmonious and substantial. The two will become inviolable. When one shall be unable to stand, the two will be broad, firm, and unimpeachable. When one by itself is animated by one single impulse, that inspires a popular feeling. It is all inspired, fearless, grinding. It is only through silver that gold can be made to feel for the people, and it is only through that medium that it can be restrained from heartless oppression and tyranny.

Market Bridge.

On Sunday last serious damage was sustained at Market bridge by the overflow of Shockoe creek. Some account of it appears in our local department. This is not one of the disasters which come from the overflowing of the river, but nevertheless it is an uncomfortable reminder of the injury and inconvenience which often yield our good people at that part of Main street in time of freshets.

Passing along that street on that very day we could but contemplate the very great comfort and security its people would enjoy were the street raised at the bridge about ten feet and properly graded to correspond with the other parts between the Old Union Hotel and near Fourteenth street. It was that were done, the whole of Main street would in a reasonable time be graded so as to give it easy or rapid transportation and afford to all pursuits the highest convenience and ease and ensure that life and elegance in business which would permit no other part of the city to excel it in the beauty and attractiveness and publicity of its ways and its places. The change that this would bring about would be like a miracle. The enhancement of the value of property and the promotion of general satisfaction would be of a miraculous nature in its impression upon the mind.

We have seen some most astonishing effects from a little work and a small expense of grading of streets. And the changes in public opinion would seem almost unaccountable. Alterations had been proposed, and they have at first brought about something like rebellion. The City Engineer has had a hard time to advance at all in the line of grading. He toiled patiently and advanced cautiously. As he progressed the effect was visible. One after another who had raised madly against proposed changes showed by their smiles that they were more than delighted, and now all Broad street is revolutionized. That street was one of the best for grading and making both beautiful and comfortable. The City Engineer was permitted by degrees to carry out his plan, and now about the last of the steep sidewalks and dangerous gutters have departed, and we have a street with such grades and such easy walks that it would be an ornament to any city.

Up to this improvement of Broad street that caused discontent in Main street. Broad street is graded and bright. It has become the grand promenade, and business is kindling steadily towards it. This tendency must continue and increase unless, indeed, the real estate owners and business men on Main street take steps to improve that street.

grade sufficiently easy to permit all transportation to move with ease—to give to locomotion along the sidewalks entire cheerfulness and elasticity of movement, so that the street-passengers would become civil and decorous. Cannot the citizen take in the picture? and can he do anything but admire it? What a street we should have then! Appearances would be infinitely better, business would be better, rents would be better, and those who paid them would be better able to pay them.

Rents are not unimpeachable. Houses that are undesirable may continue so long as they continue upon badly-graded streets, or are themselves badly built and badly arranged. Make the streets better and make the houses comfortable and pleasant to look at and live in, and they will be sought and rent better. Main street is steadily deteriorating, while of course other streets being benefited as she is incommoded and made undesirable, the difference increases until that point of injury will be reached where her population will be compelled to "turn over a new leaf," and then will begin a change which we know will go steadily on until we do at last have improvements that will be worthy of a city.

As sure as any city reform can come will Main street in time present a view of beauty and animation that will bear no likeness to the dull up-and-down and unexciting and unpleasant scenes of this day. We will then have a main street that will be worthy of a real city, and one that will no longer be a shame to Richmond.

More Cotton.

We and the following article in favor of increasing the aggregate crop of American cotton in the May No. of the Southern Planter.

"A friend of ours has been good enough to hand us a letter which he lately received from the most distinguished cotton authority in Europe. It is dated the 4th ultimo. In this letter occurs the following: 'You asked me some years ago whether American cotton would ever be King again. I answered, Yes, if you increase your production sufficiently. You are in a fair way. The import into Europe of all sorts, except New American, was in 1872-3, 1,500,000 bales; in 1873-4, 1,600,000 bales; in 1874-5, 1,700,000 bales; in 1875-6, 1,800,000 bales; in 1876-7, 1,900,000 bales; in 1877-8, 2,000,000 bales; in 1878-9, 2,100,000 bales; in 1879-80, 2,200,000 bales; in 1880-1, 2,300,000 bales; in 1881-2, 2,400,000 bales; in 1882-3, 2,500,000 bales; in 1883-4, 2,600,000 bales; in 1884-5, 2,700,000 bales; in 1885-6, 2,800,000 bales; in 1886-7, 2,900,000 bales; in 1887-8, 3,000,000 bales; in 1888-9, 3,100,000 bales; in 1889-90, 3,200,000 bales; in 1890-1, 3,300,000 bales; in 1891-2, 3,400,000 bales; in 1892-3, 3,500,000 bales; in 1893-4, 3,600,000 bales; in 1894-5, 3,700,000 bales; in 1895-6, 3,800,000 bales; in 1896-7, 3,900,000 bales; in 1897-8, 4,000,000 bales; in 1898-9, 4,100,000 bales; in 1899-00, 4,200,000 bales; in 1900-1, 4,300,000 bales; in 1901-2, 4,400,000 bales; in 1902-3, 4,500,000 bales; in 1903-4, 4,600,000 bales; in 1904-5, 4,700,000 bales; in 1905-6, 4,800,000 bales; in 1906-7, 4,900,000 bales; in 1907-8, 5,000,000 bales; in 1908-9, 5,100,000 bales; in 1909-10, 5,200,000 bales; in 1910-11, 5,300,000 bales; in 1911-12, 5,400,000 bales; in 1912-13, 5,500,000 bales; in 1913-14, 5,600,000 bales; in 1914-15, 5,700,000 bales; in 1915-16, 5,800,000 bales; in 1916-17, 5,900,000 bales; in 1917-18, 6,000,000 bales; in 1918-19, 6,100,000 bales; in 1919-20, 6,200,000 bales; in 1920-21, 6,300,000 bales; in 1921-22, 6,400,000 bales; in 1922-23, 6,500,000 bales; in 1923-24, 6,600,000 bales; in 1924-25, 6,700,000 bales; in 1925-26, 6,800,000 bales; in 1926-27, 6,900,000 bales; in 1927-28, 7,000,000 bales; in 1928-29, 7,100,000 bales; in 1929-30, 7,200,000 bales; in 1930-31, 7,300,000 bales; in 1931-32, 7,400,000 bales; in 1932-33, 7,500,000 bales; in 1933-34, 7,600,000 bales; in 1934-35, 7,700,000 bales; in 1935-36, 7,800,000 bales; in 1936-37, 7,900,000 bales; in 1937-38, 8,000,000 bales; in 1938-39, 8,100,000 bales; in 1939-40, 8,200,000 bales; in 1940-41, 8,300,000 bales; in 1941-42, 8,400,000 bales; in 1942-43, 8,500,000 bales; in 1943-44, 8,600,000 bales; in 1944-45, 8,700,000 bales; in 1945-46, 8,800,000 bales; in 1946-47, 8,900,000 bales; in 1947-48, 9,000,000 bales; in 1948-49, 9,100,000 bales; in 1949-50, 9,200,000 bales; in 1950-51, 9,300,000 bales; in 1951-52, 9,400,000 bales; in 1952-53, 9,500,000 bales; in 1953-54, 9,600,000 bales; in 1954-55, 9,700,000 bales; in 1955-56, 9,800,000 bales; in 1956-57, 9,900,000 bales; in 1957-58, 10,000,000 bales; in 1958-59, 10,100,000 bales; in 1959-60, 10,200,000 bales; in 1960-61, 10,300,000 bales; in 1961-62, 10,400,000 bales; in 1962-63, 10,500,000 bales; in 1963-64, 10,600,000 bales; in 1964-65, 10,700,000 bales; in 1965-66, 10,800,000 bales; in 1966-67, 10,900,000 bales; in 1967-68, 11,000,000 bales; in 1968-69, 11,100,000 bales; in 1969-70, 11,200,000 bales; in 1970-71, 11,300,000 bales; in 1971-72, 11,400,000 bales; in 1972-73, 11,500,000 bales; in 1973-74, 11,600,000 bales; in 1974-75, 11,700,000 bales; in 1975-76, 11,800,000 bales; in 1976-77, 11,900,000 bales; in 1977-78, 12,000,000 bales; in 1978-79, 12,100,000 bales; in 1979-80, 12,200,000 bales; in 1980-81, 12,300,000 bales; in 1981-82, 12,400,000 bales; in 1982-83, 12,500,000 bales; in 1983-84, 12,600,000 bales; in 1984-85, 12,700,000 bales; in 1985-86, 12,800,000 bales; in 1986-87, 12,900,000 bales; in 1987-88, 13,000,000 bales; in 1988-89, 13,100,000 bales; in 1989-90, 13,200,000 bales; in 1990-91, 13,300,000 bales; in 1991-92, 13,400,000 bales; in 1992-93, 13,500,000 bales; in 1993-94, 13,600,000 bales; in 1994-95, 13,700,000 bales; in 1995-96, 13,800,000 bales; in 1996-97, 13,900,000 bales; in 1997-98, 14,000,000 bales; in 1998-99, 14,100,000 bales; in 1999-00, 14,200,000 bales; in 2000-01, 14,300,000 bales; in 2001-02, 14,400,000 bales; in 2002-03, 14,500,000 bales; in 2003-04, 14,600,000 bales; in 2004-05, 14,700,000 bales; in 2005-06, 14,800,000 bales; in 2006-07, 14,900,000 bales; in 2007-08, 15,000,000 bales; in 2008-09, 15,100,000 bales; in 2009-10, 15,200,000 bales; in 2010-11, 15,300,000 bales; in 2011-12, 15,400,000 bales; in 2012-13, 15,500,000 bales; in 2013-14, 15,600,000 bales; in 2014-15, 15,700,000 bales; in 2015-16, 15,800,000 bales; in 2016-17, 15,900,000 bales; in 2017-18, 16,000,000 bales; in 2018-19, 16,100,000 bales; in 2019-20, 16,200,000 bales; in 2020-21, 16,300,000 bales; in 2021-22, 16,400,000 bales; in 2022-23, 16,500,000 bales; in 2023-24, 16,600,000 bales; in 2024-25, 16,700,000 bales; in 2025-26, 16,800,000 bales; in 2026-27, 16,900,000 bales; in 2027-28, 17,000,000 bales; in 2028-29, 17,100,000 bales; in 2029-30, 17,200,000 bales; in 2030-31, 17,300,000 bales; in 2031-32, 17,400,000 bales; in 2032-33, 17,500,000 bales; in 2033-34, 17,600,000 bales; in 2034-35, 17,700,000 bales; in 2035-36, 17,800,000 bales; in 2036-37, 17,900,000 bales; in 2037-38, 18,000,000 bales; in 2038-39, 18,100,000 bales; in 2039-40, 18,200,000 bales; in 2040-41, 18,300,000 bales; in 2041-42, 18,400,000 bales; in 2042-43, 18,500,000 bales; in 2043-44, 18,600,000 bales; in 2044-45, 18,700,000 bales; in 2045-46, 18,800,000 bales; in 2046-47, 18,900,000 bales; in 2047-48, 19,000,000 bales; in 2048-49, 19,100,000 bales; in 2049-50, 19,200,000 bales; in 2050-51, 19,300,000 bales; in 2051-52, 19,400,000 bales; in 2052-53, 19,500,000 bales; in 2053-54, 19,600,000 bales; in 2054-55, 19,700,000 bales; in 2055-56, 19,800,000 bales; in 2056-57, 19,900,000 bales; in 2057-58, 20,000,000 bales; in 2058-59, 20,100,000 bales; in 2059-60, 20,200,000 bales; in 2060-61, 20,300,000 bales; in 2061-62, 20,400,000 bales; in 2062-63, 20,500,000 bales; in 2063-64, 20,600,000 bales; in 2064-65, 20,700,000 bales; in 2065-66, 20,800,000 bales; in 2066-67, 20,900,000 bales; in 2067-68, 21,000,000 bales; in 2068-69, 21,100,000 bales; in 2069-70, 21,200,000 bales; in 2070-71, 21,300,000 bales; in 2071-72, 21,400,000 bales; in 2072-73, 21,500,000 bales; in 2073-74, 21,600,000 bales; in 2074-75, 21,700,000 bales; in 2075-76, 21,800,000 bales; in 2076-77, 21,900,000 bales; in 2077-78, 22,000,000 bales; in 2078-79, 22,100,000 bales; in 2079-80, 22,200,000 bales; in 2080-81, 22,300,000 bales; in 2081-82, 22,400,000 bales; in 2082-83, 22,500,000 bales; in 2083-84, 22,600,000 bales; in 2084-85, 22,700,000 bales; in 2085-86, 22,800,000 bales; in 2086-87, 22,900,000 bales; in 2087-88, 23,000,000 bales; in 2088-89, 23,100,000 bales; in 2089-90, 23,200,000 bales; in 2090-91, 23,300,000 bales; in 2091-92, 23,400,000 bales; in 2092-93, 23,500,000 bales; in 2093-94, 23,600,000 bales; in 2094-95, 23,700,000 bales; in 2095-96, 23,800,000 bales; in 2096-97, 23,900,000 bales; in 2097-98, 24,000,000 bales; in 2098-99, 24,100,000 bales; in 2099-00, 24,200,000 bales; in 2100-01, 24,300,000 bales; in 2101-02, 24,400,000 bales; in 2102-03, 24,500,000 bales; in 2103-04, 24,600,000 bales; in 2104-05, 24,700,000 bales; in 2105-06, 24,800,000 bales; in 2106-07, 24,900,000 bales; in 2107-08, 25,000,000 bales; in 2108-09, 25,100,000 bales; in 2109-10, 25,200,000 bales; in 2110-11, 25,300,000 bales; in 2111-12, 25,400,000 bales; in 2112-13, 25,500,000 bales; in 2113-14, 25,600,000 bales; in 2114-15, 25,700,000 bales; in 2115-16, 25,800,000 bales; in 2116-17, 25,900,000 bales; in 2117-18, 26,000,000 bales; in 2118-19, 26,100,000 bales; in 2119-20, 26,200,000 bales; in 2120-21, 26,300,000 bales; in 2121-22, 26,400,000 bales; in 2122-23, 26,500,000 bales; in 2123-24, 26,600,000 bales; in 2124-25, 26,700,000 bales; in 2125-26, 26,800,000 bales; in 2126-27, 26,900,000 bales; in 2127-28, 27,000,000 bales; in 2128-29, 27,100,000 bales; in 2129-30, 27,200,000 bales; in 2130-31, 27,300,000 bales; in 2131-32, 27,400,000 bales; in 2132-33, 27,500,000 bales; in 2133-34, 27,600,000 bales; in 2134-35, 27,700,000 bales; in 2135-36, 27,800,000 bales; in 2136-37, 27,900,000 bales; in 2137-38, 28,000,000 bales; in 2138-39, 28,100,000 bales; in 2139-40, 28,200,000 bales; in 2140-41, 28,300,000 bales; in 2141-42, 28,400,000 bales; in 2142-43, 28,500,000 bales; in 2143-44, 28,600,000 bales; in 2144-45, 28,700,000 bales; in 2145-46, 28,800,000 bales; in 2146-47, 28,900,000 bales; in 2147-48, 29,000,000 bales; in 2148-49, 29,100,000 bales; in 2149-50, 29,200,000 bales; in 2150-51, 29,300,000 bales; in 2151-52, 29,400,000 bales; in 2152-53, 29,500,000 bales; in 2153-54, 29,600,000 bales; in 2154-55, 29,700,000 bales; in 2155-56, 29,800,000 bales; in 2156-57, 29,900,000 bales; in 2157-58, 30,000,000 bales; in 2158-59, 30,100,000 bales; in 2159-60, 30,200,000 bales; in 2160-61, 30,300,000 bales; in 2161-62, 30,400,000 bales; in 2162-63, 30,500,000 bales; in 2163-64, 30,600,000 bales; in 2164-65, 30,700,000 bales; in 2165-66, 30,800,000 bales; in 2166-67, 30,900,000 bales; in 2167-68, 31,000,000 bales; in 2168-69, 31,100,000 bales; in 2169-70, 31,200,000 bales; in 2170-71, 31,300,000 bales; in 2171-72, 31,400,000 bales; in 2172-73, 31,500,000 bales; in 2173-74, 31,600,000 bales; in 2174-75, 31,700,000 bales; in 2175-76, 31,800,000 bales; in 2176-77, 31,900,000 bales; in 2177-78, 32,000,000 bales; in 2178-79, 32,100,000 bales; in 2179-80, 32,200,000 bales; in 2180-81, 32,300,000 bales; in 2181-82, 32,400,000 bales; in 2182-83, 32,500,000 bales; in 2183-84, 32,600,000 bales; in 2184-85, 32,700,000 bales; in 2185-86, 32,800,000 bales; in 2186-87, 32,900,000 bales; in 2187-88, 33,000,000 bales; in 2188-89, 33,100,000 bales; in 2189-90, 33,200,000 bales; in 2190-91, 33,300,000 bales; in 2191-92, 33,400,000 bales; in 2192-93, 33,500,000 bales; in 2193-94, 33,600,000 bales; in 2194-95, 33,700,000 bales; in 2195-96, 33,800,000 bales; in 2196-97, 33,900,000 bales; in 2197-98, 34,000,000 bales; in 2198-99, 34,100,000 bales; in 2199-00, 34,200,000 bales; in 2200-01, 34,300,000 bales; in 2201-02, 34,400,000 bales; in 2202-03, 34,500,000 bales; in 2203-04, 34,600,000 bales; in 2204-05, 34,700,000 bales; in 2205-06, 34,800,000 bales; in 2206-07, 34,900,000 bales; in 2207-08, 35,000,000 bales; in 2208-09, 35,100,000 bales; in 2209-10, 35,200,000 bales; in 2210-11, 35,300,000 bales; in 2211-12, 35,400,000 bales; in 2212-13, 35,500,000 bales; in 2213-14, 35,600,000 bales; in 2214-15, 35,700,000 bales; in 2215-16, 35,800,000 bales; in 2216-17, 35,900,000 bales; in 2217-18, 36,000,000 bales; in 2218-19, 36,100,000 bales; in 2219-20, 36,200,000 bales; in 2220-21, 36,300,000 bales; in 2221-22, 36,400,000 bales; in 2222-23, 36,500,000 bales; in 2223-24, 36,600,000 bales; in 2224-25, 36,700,000 bales; in 2225-26, 36,800,000 bales; in 2226-27, 36,900,000 bales; in 2227-28, 37,000,000 bales; in 2228-29, 37,100,000 bales; in 2229-30, 37,200,000 bales; in 2230-31, 37,300,000 bales; in 2231-32, 37,400,000 bales; in 2232-33, 37,500,000 bales; in 2233-34, 37,600,000 bales; in 2234-35, 37,700,000 bales; in 2235-36, 37,800,000 bales; in 2236-37, 37,900,000 bales; in 2237-38, 38,000,000 bales; in 2238-39, 38,100,000 bales; in 2239-40, 38,200,000 bales; in 2240-41, 38,300,000 bales; in 2241-42, 38,400,000 bales; in 2242-43, 38,500,000 bales; in 2243-44, 38,600,000 bales; in 2244-45, 38,700,000 bales; in 2245-46, 38,800,000 bales; in 2246-47, 38,900,000 bales; in 2247-48, 39,000,000 bales; in 2248-49, 39,100,000 bales; in 2249-50, 39,200,000 bales; in 2250-51, 39,300,000 bales; in 2251-52, 39,400,000 bales; in 2252-53, 39,500,000 bales; in 2253-54, 39,600,000 bales; in 2254-55, 39,700,000 bales; in 2255-56, 39,800,000 bales; in 2256-57, 39,900,000 bales; in 2257-58, 40,000,000 bales; in 2258-59, 40,100,000 bales; in 2259-60, 40,200,000 bales; in 2260-61, 40,300,000 bales; in 2261-62, 40,400,000 bales; in 2262-63, 40,500,000 bales; in 2263-64, 40,600,000 bales; in 2264-65, 40,700,000 bales; in 2265-66, 40,800,000 bales; in 2266-67, 40,900,000 bales; in 2267-68, 41,000,000 bales; in 2268-69, 41,100,000 bales; in 2269-70, 41,200,000 bales; in 2270-71, 41,300,000 bales; in 2271-72, 41,400,000 bales; in 2272-73, 41,500,000 bales; in 2273-74, 41,600,000 bales; in 2274-75, 41,700,000 bales; in 2275-76, 41,800,000 bales; in 2276-77, 41,900,000 bales; in 2277-78, 42,000,000 bales; in 2278-79, 42,100,000 bales; in 2279-80, 42,200,000 bales; in 2280-81, 42,300,000 bales; in 2281-82, 42,400,000 bales; in 2282-83, 42,500,000 bales; in 2283-84, 42,600,000 bales; in 2284-85, 42,700,000 bales; in 2285-86, 42,800,000 bales; in 2286-87, 42,900,000 bales; in 2287-88, 43,000,000 bales; in 2288-89, 43,100,000 bales; in 2289-90, 43,200,000 bales; in 2290-